(c) what criteria have been followed in gradation of the States in terms of development by the Planning Commission; and whether Government have considered the question of recasting the BIMARU States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The term BIMARU is not an official nomenclature. It only refers to the States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. The report "Successful Governance Initiatives and Best Practices-Experiences from Indian States" prepared by the Planning Commission in collaboration with the Human Development Resource Centre, United Nations Development Programme has not categorized the States as developed or otherwise.

Growth rate for Tenth Plan

1053. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the growth rate targeted and achieved during the Ninth Five Year Plan period;

(b) the growth rate targeted for the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(c) how Government propose to achieve this growth rate; and

(d) whether the targeted growth rate is realistic in view of resource constraints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Based on the latest estimates available from the Central Statistical Organisation, the rate of growth (measured in terms of GDP at Factor Cost) during the Ninth Five Year Plan works out to 5.5 per cent, as against a target of 6.5 per cent.

(b) The target growth rate for the Tenth Five Year Plan is 8 per cent per annum.

(c) and (d) The targeted growth rate can be achieved, *inter-alia*, by larger investment in infrastructure and social sectors, improving allocative efficiency of resources, carrying out policy reforms in order to create investor friendly environment and enhancing efficiency of delivery system.